



Department of Ecology

Agency Update

December 2020

Stephanie Schleif, Acting Nuclear Waste Program Manager



Outline

- **Holistic negotiations**
- **TPA milestone negotiations**
- **Compliance activities**
- **Permitting activities**
- **Transitions**

Holistic negotiations

- Ecology proposed holistic negotiation of tank waste retrieval, treatment
- Sessions are being facilitated by mediators from the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service
- EPA is participating in the sessions in addition to USDOE, US Department of Justice, Ecology, and the Washington Attorney General Office
- Per a mediation agreement, the parties will not discuss status or progress during the negotiations
- Meetings continue to occur

Tri-Party Agreement negotiations transuranic mixed waste

- **M-91 milestone series addresses transuranic mixed waste in storage at the Central Waste Complex (CWC) or retrievably stored in the Central Plateau burial grounds across the road from CWC**
 - Milestone adjustments were required because of the shutdown then slow down at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP)
 - Also the WIPP closing date was extended from 2030 to 2050
 - USDOE and Ecology are close to agreement; EPA also has to agree if the major milestone date is moved
 - When tentative agreement is reach, a 30-day notice would be followed by a public comment period for proposed changes

Ecology compliance activities October 2020 to November 2020

Inspections Conducted

- **Low Level Burial Grounds Trenches 31 and 34 – November 5, 2020**
- **400 Area Waste Management Unit – November 19 ,2020**
- **Low Level Burial Grounds Trench 94 – November 30, 2020**

Compliance Reports Issued

- **Puget Sound Naval Shipyard – October 16, 2020**
- **222-S Laboratory Complex – October 29, 2020**
- **Low Level Burial Grounds Trench 94 – November 12, 2020**

Ecology Compliance Activities October 2020 to November 2020

Compliance Reports Issued

- **216-A-29 Ditch Groundwater Inspection – November 19, 2020**
- **216-A-37-1 Crib Groundwater Inspection – November 19, 2020**
- **216-A-36B Groundwater Inspection – November 19, 2020**
- **216-B-63 Trench Groundwater Inspection – November 19, 2020**
- **216-S-10 Pond and Ditch Groundwater Inspection – November 19, 2020**
- **216-B-3 Main Pond Groundwater Inspection – November 19, 2020**
- **183-H Solar Evaporator Basins Groundwater Inspection – November 19, 2020**
- **300 Area Process Trenches Groundwater Inspection – November 19, 2020**
- **LLBG-Green Islands Groundwater Inspection – November 19, 2020**



Permit Modifications Continue

- Ecology continues to process draft and final permit modifications during the “Stay at Home, Stay Healthy” and “Safe Start” Orders.
- Draft and final permit modifications are available online at the Ecology website.
- Members of the public can request hard copies of documents and DVDs of permit modification if electronic accessibility is not possible.
- The Public Information Repositories and Administrative Record receive draft and final permit modifications electronically to post on their websites.
- Once Ecology can successfully send DVDs and hard copies, we will ensure those are in place at the appropriate locations, according to the WAC and Tri-Party Agreement.
- Ecology continues to work to ensure members of the public receive the information in support of permit modifications.

Opportunities for public involvement

Unit	Public Comment Period
<u>Class 2 Permit Modification</u> – The permit modification will incorporate revisions to include the LERF-ETF Load-in Expansion Project.	December 15-February 15, 2021
<u>Class 3 Permit Modification</u> – (Second portion of the Class 3) Includes proposed permit language in support of operations and allow for disposal of mixed low-level waste in both disposal cells of the Integrated Disposal Facility, add receipt of mixed low-level wastes from Hanford Site operations, and allow for the construction of a treatment pad and a storage pad.	February-April 2021
<u>Class 3 Permit Modification</u> – (Second portion of the Class 3) Includes proposed permit language for new wall penetrations into the 242-A Facility.	February-April 2021
<u>Agency-Initiated Permit Modification</u> – Incorporate a proposed, updated Closure Plan into the WTP Permit.	February 1-March 17, 2021
<u>Class 2 Permit Modification</u> – Incorporates a proposed Groundwater Engineering Evaluation and Groundwater Management Plan for the LERF-ETF permit.	Spring 2021

Opportunities for public involvement

Unit	Dates
<u>Class 3 Permit Modification</u> – (Second portion of a Class 3) Incorporate LERF-ETF Basin 41 into Hanford Site-wide Permit Operating Unit Group 3. LERF Basins are lined surface impoundments used to store and treat aqueous waste. The waste is pumped from LERF to ETF for treatment. The addition of LERF Basin 41 is in support of DFLAW Operations.	February-April, 2021
<u>Class 3 Permit Modification</u> – (Second portion of a Class 3) Incorporate draft permit language and proposed permit conditions for the leak detection system for the 242-A Evaporator.	February-April 2021
<u>Class 3 Permit Modification</u> – The Class 3 permit modification incorporates proposed permit language for the LERF-ETF Acetonitrile Treatment Lag Storage Tanks, and Modular Grout System into the LERF-ETF Permit.	February-April 2021
<u>State Waste Discharge Permit</u> – ST0004502 – Treated Effluent Disposal Facility permit renewal	March to April 2021

Transitions

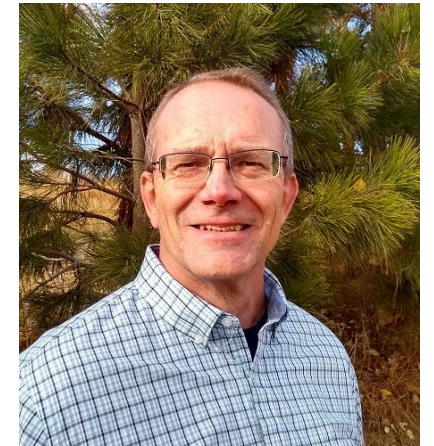


**Susan Leckband -
Stepping down as
HAB chair**

*Your
thoughtful and
steadfast
leadership will
be sorely
missed.*



**David Bowen –
New NWP Program
Manager**



*Please welcome
David to NWP.
He starts
Dec. 16th.*



Questions?

Follow Ecology's Nuclear Waste Program
on Facebook, Twitter and our website



@EcologyWAHanford



@ecyHanford



Ecology.wa.gov/Hanford

Nuclear Waste Program
509-372-7950
Hanford@ecy.wa.gov

